## Message Text

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**ACTION ACDA-19** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 EB-11 SAM-01 IO-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6386
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

SECRETUSNATO 3431

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: REVISION OF MBFR DATA

REF: A) STATE 125561; B) BONN 9508

- 1. REF A REQUESTS MISSION'S VIEWS ON FEASIBILITY AND DESIRABILITY OF PROCESSING NEW FIGURES THROUGH ALLIANCE.
- 2. BASIC ISSUE WHICH WILL GOVERN OUR APPROACH IS WHETHER WASHINGTON WISHES NEW DATA AGREED TO FOR MBFR PURPOSES ONLY, OR WHETHER THEY SHOULD BECOME "NATO AGREED DATA" IN FORMAL INTELLIGENCE SENSE OF TERM. IF THE LATTER, MISSION SEES NO ALTERNATIVE TO INTRODUCING THEM AT A FUTURE NATO INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE (E.G. A SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE; AN MC 224 CONFERENCE WITH REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE, OR A SPECIAL UP-DATE OF AN MC 161 CONFERENCE). SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD TAKE CONSIDERABLE TIME AND ADVANCE PREPARATIONS, AND COULD SERVE TO DISRUPT ESTABLISHED PROCESSES WHEREBY ALLIES SECRET

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REACH AGREEMENT ON INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION.

3. IF WE ARE TO SEEK ALLIED AGREEMENT ON NEW DATA FOR MBFR PURPOSES ONLY, WE WOULD THEN PUT THEM FORWARD IN MBFR WG, WITH THE ARGUMENT

THAT FIGURES REPRESENT LATEST ESTIMATES (WE ASSUME MID-YEAR 1974 BUT WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON'S CONFIRMATION) WHICH AHG SHOULD HAVE AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY IN VIEW OF CURRENT STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS. WE WOULD ADD THAT FIGURES SO AGREED COULD THEN BE INTRODUCED AT NEXT APPROPRIATE NATO INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE, FOR CONFIRMATION AS NATO AGREED DATA.

- 4. IN INFORMAL BILATERAL CONTACTS, WE UNDERSTAND THAT UK STRONGLY SUPPORTS CONCEPT OF AGREEING TO FIGURES FOR MBFR PORPOSES ONLY, AND NOW WISHES TO AVOID THE CONVENING OF A SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. UK DEL TELLS US THIS IS BECAUSE THEIR PRONCIPAL CONCERNS AND OBJECTIVES HAVE NOW BEEN OVERCOME AS A RESULT OF RECENT BILATERALS ON DATA IN WASHINGTON.
- 5. IF WE CAN RELY ON UK AND FRG SUPPORT FOR REF A FIGURES, WE THINK WE WILL HAVE GOOD CHANCE OF SELLING THEM IN WG FORUM ON THE BASIS OF THEIR BEING VALID FOR MBFR PORPOSES ONLY. UK IS PERSUADED THAT OTHERS WILL GO ALONG IF THEY ARE ASSURED THAT THE THREE ALLIES HAVING CAPABILITIES IN INTELLIGENCE FIELD CAN AGREE. THEY ALSO BELIEVE FRG WILL GO ALONG WITH THIS APPROACH. AS YET, HOWEVER, MISSION HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO LEARN THROUGH FRG DEL OF FIRM GERMAN POSITION ON REF A DATA, BUT NOTE FROM REF B THAT THEY ARE STILL UNDER STUDY. WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY INDICATION FROM EMBASSY BONN OF GERMAN POSITION.
- 6. IF WASHINGTON AGREES WITH APPROACH OF REACHING AGREEMENT ON FIGURES FOR MBFR PORPOSES ONLY (AND PROVIDED WE CAN GET FRG ON BOARD IN TIME) WE PROPOSE TO INTRODUCE DATA AT NEXT WG MEETING, NOW SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 21. MEANWHILE, USDELMC BELIEVES WASHINGTON SHOULD GIVE CONSIDERATION AS TO SPECIFICS OF HOW FIGURES AGREED FOR MBFR PORPOSES WOULD BE CONFIRMED AT A LATER DATE WITHIN NATO INTELLIGENCE CHANNELS, AND HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH DIA ON THIS ASPECT OF THE OVERALL SUBJECT.
- 7. EVEN IF WE DO PUT FORWARD DATA IN WG WITH STRONG UK (AND HOPEFULLY FRG) ENDORSEMENT, IT IS STILL POSSIBLE THAT WE MAY ENCOUNTER SOME ALLIED CRITICISM AND PROBABLE IMS EXASPERATION SECRET

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THAT U.S. IS AGAIN PROPOSING TO CHANGE WP FIGURES, IN THIS CASE HARD ON THE HEELS OF AN AGREED WG DATA PACKAGE (AC/276-D(74)5). TO CIRCUMVENT ANY SUCH POSSIBILITY, WE PROPOSE TO SAY THAT U.S. WAS NOW INITIATING ITS EARLIER PROPOSAL TO UP-DATE THE MBFR DATA BASE SEMI-ANNUALLY (AGAIN FOR MBFR PURPOSES ONLY) USING LATEST AVAILABLE (AND ON THIS OCCASION TRILATERALLY AGREED) INFORMATION. WE COULD ALSO SAY THAT U.S. PLANS TO DO THIS AGAIN TOWARD END OF YEAR 1974, THUS INSTITUTIONALIZING A PATTERN WHICH WOULD MEET CONTINUING REQUIREMENTS OF AHG, BUT WITHOUT DISTURBING NATO INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE PROCESS. IF ASKED BY IMS, CAN WE SAY THAT U.S. WILL MAKE AVAILABLE DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF REF A FIGURES FOR INCLUSION IN NEXT REVISION OF ANNEX B OF WG DATA PACKAGE?

 $8.\ \mbox{IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, WE URGE THAT USDEL MBFR NOT SURFACE REF A FIGURES IN AHG UNTIL AFTER U.S. INTRODUCES THEM IN NATO HEADQUARTERS.$ 

9. REQUEST GUIDANCE ON WHETHER DATA SHOULD BE AGREED TO FOR MBFR PURPOSES ONLY, OR WHETHER WASHINGTON WISHES THEM TO BECOME NATO AGREED. WE ALSO NEED TO KNOW VALIDITY DATE OF NEW FIGURES, AND ACCEPTABLITY OF OUR APPROACH PROPOSED IN PARA 7 ABOVE. MCAULIFFE.

SECRET

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MBFR VIENNA **USNMR SHAPE** USCINCEUR Type: TE

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